

**BEVERAGES WITH IMPROVED TEXTURE AND
FLAVOR IMPACT AT LOWER DOSAGE OF SOLIDS**

Abstract of the Disclosure

A flavored instant or ready-to-drink beverage product that can deliver a rich, preferably frothy, foamy beverage with a clean, improved mouthfeel and thickness without sliminess, as well as a higher flavor impact at a lower dosage of solids is disclosed. These products ^{contain} ~~comprise~~ a water-insoluble component that includes microparticulate component, a fat/oil component, an emulsifier, a vitamin and mineral mix, and optionally, microcrystalline cellulose; a water-soluble component that includes a soluble beverage component, a thickener, and optionally, a buffer; a foam stabilizer; and optionally, acid carbonate/bicarbonate; a sweetener; milk solids; processing aids; and flavorants; and, optionally, and preferably in ready-to-drink formulations, up to 95% water. The ratio of water-soluble to water-insoluble components is about 3.3 or less (i.e., the ratio of water-insoluble to water-soluble (I/S) components is 0.30 or greater) and/or the level of water-insoluble components per unit volume of the product is at least about 0.019 g/cc. These products preferably include the combination of sugar and a high intensity sweetener to help reduce the level of solids in the beverage. This product also preferably contains a foaming creamer, a foam generating system, and a protein foam stabilizer to provide a foamy, frothy beverage.

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